

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) A pesticidal agent which (i) is obtainable from a *Xenorhabdus bovienii* strain H31 or I73; (ii) has oral insecticidal activity against at least one species of insect of an order selected from the group consisting of *Lepidoptera*, *Coleoptera* and *Homoptera*, said insect species being selected from the group consisting of *Pieris brassicae*, *Plutella xylostella*, *Phaedon cochleariae* and *Myzus persicae*; (iii) is substantially heat stable to 50°C; and (iv) acts synergistically with *Bacillus thuringiensis* cells as an oral insecticide.

4-52. (Cancelled)

53. (Previously presented) An agent as claimed in claim 3 which is obtainable from *Xenorhabdus bovienii* strain H31 deposited with NCIMB under accession number NCIMB 40985.

54. (Previously presented) An agent as claimed in claim 53, wherein the agent has activity against insects of two or more order selected from: *Lepidoptera*; *Coleoptera*; *Homoptera*.

55. (Previously presented) An agent as claimed in claim 3, which is obtainable from *Xenorhabdus bovienii* strain I73 deposited with NCIMB under accession number NCIMB 40986.

56. (Previously presented) An agent as claimed in claim 55, wherein the agent has activity against insects of two or more orders selected from: *Lepidoptera*; *Coleoptera*; *Homoptera*.

57-62. (Cancelled)

63. (Previously presented) An agent as claimed in claim 55 which is a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence identical to any one or more of SEQ ID No:1, SEQ ID No:2, SEQ ID No:3 and SEQ ID No:4.

64. (Cancelled)

65. (Currently amended) An agent as claimed in claim ~~64~~3 wherein the source of said insecticidal toxin is a bacterial nematode-symbiont.

66-68. (Cancelled)